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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.				
10/673,281	09/30/2003	Jin Soo Lee	CIT/K-107B	4754				
34610 KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP P.O. Box 221200 Chantilly, VA 20153-1200	7590 01/10/2008		<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">EXAMINER</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">COLAN, GIOVANNA B</td></tr></table>		EXAMINER		COLAN, GIOVANNA B	
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01/10/2008	PAPER							

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/673,281	LEE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Giovanna Colan	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-12,18,20-23 and 29-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-12,18,20-23 and 29-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :09/30/2003, 03/22,2004, 10/03/2005, 11/28/2005.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant filed request for continued examination (RCE) on 10/09/2007.
2. No claims have been amended. Claims 60 – 64 were added. Claims 4, 13 – 17, 19, and 24 – 28 were canceled.
3. Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 12, 18, 20 – 23, and 29 – 64 are pending in this application.
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 – 3, 5 – 12, 18, 20 – 23, and 29 – 64 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

5. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/11/2006 has been entered.

Specification

6. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction

of the following is required: Applicant has failed to provide antecedent basis for the claim terminology "computer readable medium".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

7. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

8. Claims 18, 20 – 23, 29 – 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 18, and 29 are not statutory because the claims merely recite computing steps without producing any concrete, useful result and tangible result and/or being limited to a practical application within the technological arts. Also, applicant has not provided an explicit and deliberate definition for "computer readable medium".

Claims 37, 48, and 59 are not statutory because the claims merely recite computing steps without producing any concrete, useful result and tangible result and/or being limited to a practical application within the technological arts.

That is, it must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible result." State Street, 149 F.3d at *1373-74, 47 USPQ2d at 1601-02. The purpose of this requirement is to limit patent protection to inventions that possess a certain level of "real world" value, as opposed to subject matter that represents nothing more than an idea or concept, or is simply a starting point for future investigation or research (Brenner v. Manson, 383 U.S.

519, 528-36, 148 USPQ 689, 693-96 **> (1966); In re Fisher, 421 F.3d 1365, 76 USPQ2d 1225 (Fed. Cir. 2005); In re Ziegler, 992 F.2d 1197, 1200-03, 26 USPQ2d 1600, 1603-06 (Fed. Cir. 1993)).

Any claim not specifically addressed, above, is being rejected as incorporating the deficiencies of a claim upon which it depends.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

11. Claims 1 – 3, 5, 18, 20, 29 – 31, 37 – 39, 48 – 50, and 59 - 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (Wang hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,802,361, filed: September 30, 1994) in view of Aggarwal et al. (K. K. Aggarwal and Yogesh Singh) (Non-Patent Literature: "Software Reliability Apportionment using the Analytic Hierarchy Process"; ACM SIGSOFT; Software Engineering Notes vol 20 no 5; December 1995; New York, NY, USA).

Regarding Claim 1, Wang discloses a method of searching or browsing multimedia data comprising:

(a) receiving reference multimedia data with a data structure (Fig. 2A, item 201, Col. 8, lines 7 – 17, Wang) including features of said reference multimedia data (Col. 8, lines 23 – 28, Wang) and weight information of said features.

(b) searching for said reference multimedia data using the features and the weight information (Col. 8 and 18, lines 40 – 42 and 54 – 57; respectively, Wang);

(c) receiving user feedback on a relevance of resultant multimedia data found in (b) (Col. 8 and 9, lines 62 – 63 and 5 – 6, "any user supplied ranking of the image attribute"; respectively, Wang);

(d) measuring a similarity of the reference multimedia data to the resultant multimedia data (Col. 13, lines 18 – 20 and 29 – 31, Wang¹) and calculating a new

¹ Wherein the step of finding the luminance difference corresponds to the step of measuring a similarity as claimed.

weight information of said features using the measured value (Col. 18, lines 51 – 54, Wang²); and

(e) updating the weight information of said features in said data structure of the reference multimedia data using the new weight information (Col. 26, lines 21 – 28, “for each image is reweighted with the new ranking value”, Wang).

However, Wang does not expressly disclose: reliability of weight information. On the other hand, Aggarwal discloses: reliability of weight information (Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the Aggarwal’s teachings with respect to reliability of weight information to the system of Wang. Skilled artisan would have been motivated to do so, as suggested by Aggarwal (Page 56, 3rd paragraph under Section: “Introduction”, Aggarwal), to set reliability goals for individual modules such that the user’s specified system reliability goal is met.

Regarding Claim 2, the combination of Wang in view of Aggarwal (Wang/Aggarwal hereinafter) discloses a method, wherein in (c), increasing weights of features which would increase a similarity between the reference multimedia data and the resultant multimedia data if the user feedback is a positive relevance information (Col. 20 and 25, lines 10 – 13 and 64 – 67; respectively, Wang; and Page 57, 2nd paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

² Wherein the step of assigning a numerical ranking value corresponds to the step of calculating a new

Regarding Claim 3, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a method, wherein in (c), increasing weights of features which would increase a dissimilarity between the reference multimedia data and the resultant multimedia data if the user feedback is a negative relevance information (Col. 26, lines 5 – 7, Wang; and Page 57, 2nd paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 5, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a method, wherein a reliability of a weight assigned to one of said features is proportional to the amount of training by user feedback (Col. 18, lines 51 – 54, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 18, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a data structure embodied in a computer-readable medium for a multimedia data searching or browsing system comprising:

- a multimedia data (Fig. 2a, item 201, Col. 8, lines 10 – 15, Wang);
- a variable information representing features of the multimedia data (Col. 8, lines 7 – 8, visual attributes, Wang); and
- reliability information representing a reliability of the variable information (Col. 8, lines 54 – 60, “analyzes the side information files to identify those images in the image

weight information as claimed.

database that are most similar to the input image attribute”, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 20, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a data structure, wherein the reliability information includes information on the number of variable information updates by a user (Col. 8, lines 62 – 64, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 29, 37, and 48, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a system of searching multimedia information, comprising:

a storage device which stores a data structure (Col. 7, lines 13 – 18, Wang) having:

(a) feature information corresponding to at least one image feature (Col. 8, lines 23 – 28, Wang),

(b) weight information indicative of an importance of the image feature (Col. 12, lines 62 – 66, “different parameters weighted to reflect their significance to face identification”, Wang), and

(c) reliability information indicative of a reliability of the weight information (Col. 13, lines 18 – 20 and 29 – 31, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal); and

a processor which searches said multimedia information based on the data structure (Col. 7, lines 9 – 13, Wang).

Regarding Claim 30, 38, and 49, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a system, wherein the reliability information provides an indication of the reliability of the weight information based on user feedback (Col. 12, lines 62 – 66, “different parameters weighted to reflect their significance to face identification”, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 31, 39, and 50, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a system, wherein the reliability information includes update information corresponding to the weight information (Col. 26, lines 21 – 28, “for each image is reweighted with the new ranking value”, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 59, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a method performed by a computing device, comprising:

- receiving an image (Fig. 2A, item 201, Col. 8, lines 7 – 17, Wang);
- extracting characteristic attributes from the image (Col. 8, lines 25 – 28, Wang);
- ranking the characteristic attributes of the image (Col. 8 and 9, lines 62 – 63 and 5 – 6, “any user supplied ranking of the image attribute”; respectively, Wang);
- determining reliability of extracted characteristic attributes of the image (Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal); and

searching a database of images using the extracted characteristic attributes, the ranking of the extracted characteristic attributes, and the determined reliability of the extracted characteristic attributes (Col. 8 and 18, lines 40 – 42 and 54 – 57; respectively, Wang).

Regarding Claim 60, 62, 63, and 64, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a data structure, wherein the reliability information is different from the weight information (Col. 13, lines 18 – 20 and 29 – 31, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claim 61, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a data structure, wherein the reliability information is different from the variable information (Col. 8, lines 54 – 60, “analyzes the side information files to identify those images in the image database that are most similar to the input image attribute”; wherein the input image attribute corresponds to the variable information as claimed, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claims 60, 62, 63, and 64, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a system, wherein the reliability information is different from the weight information (Col. 13, lines 18 – 20 and 29 – 31, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

Regarding Claims 61, Wang/Aggarwal discloses a system, wherein the reliability information is different from the weight information (Col. 8, lines 54 – 60, “analyzes the side information files to identify those images in the image database that are most similar to the input image attribute”, Wang; and Page 57, 1st paragraph under Section: “Relative reliability weights”, Aggarwal).

12. Claims 6 – 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (Wang hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,802,361, filed: September 30, 1994), in view of Aggarwal et al. (K. K. Aggarwal and Yogesh Singh) (Non-Patent Literature: “Software Reliability Apportionment using the Analytic Hierarchy Process”; ACM SIGSOFT; Software Engineering Notes vol 20 no 5; December 1995; New York, NY, USA), and further in view of Kinra et al. (Kinra hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,731,991, filed: May 3, 1996).

Regarding Claim 6, Wang/Aggarwal discloses all the limitations as disclosed above including data structure of the reference multimedia data. However, Wang/Aggarwal does not expressly disclose authority information. On the other hand, Kinra discloses authority information which limits an update of the weight information by a user feedback (Col. 6, lines 49 – 55 and 62 – 63, Kinra). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the Kinra’s teachings to the system of Wang/Aggarwal. Skilled artisan would have been motivated to do so, as suggested by Kinra (Col. 1, lines 50 – 54 and 66 – 67, Kinra), to

provide expert software evaluation, and to allow a user to emphasize which criteria in various alternate software products are most important to the user.

Regarding Claim 7, the combination of Wang in view of Aggarwal and further in view of Kinra (Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra hereinafter) discloses a method, wherein the authority information includes a plurality of authority levels, wherein each authority level has degree values affecting the degree of weight information update in (e) (Page 57, 2nd paragraph under Section: "Hierarchy of Software System", Aggarwal; and Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 8, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra discloses a method, wherein a higher reliability is given to user feedback by a user with a high authority level (Page 57, 2nd paragraph under Section: "Hierarchy of Software System", Aggarwal; and Col. 6, lines 53 – 59, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 9, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra discloses a method, wherein in (e), updating the weight information of said features in said data structure of the reference multimedia data depending upon the reliability information and the authority information (Col. 6, lines 57 – 59, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 10, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra discloses a method, wherein the data structure of the reference multimedia data further comprises authority information which limits an update of the weight information by a user feedback (Col. 6, lines 59 – 63, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 11, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra discloses a method, wherein the authority information includes a plurality of authority levels, wherein each authority level has degree values affecting the degree of weight information update in (e) (Page 57, 2nd paragraph under Section: "Hierarchy of Software System", Aggarwal; and Col. 6, lines 62 – 63, Kinra).

13. Claims 12, 21 – 23, 32 – 36, 40 – 47, and 51 – 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (Wang hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,802,361, filed: September 30, 1994), in view of Aggarwal et al. (K. K. Aggarwal and Yogesh Singh) (Non-Patent Literature: "Software Reliability Apportionment using the Analytic Hierarchy Process"; ACM SIGSOFT; Software Engineering Notes vol 20 no 5; December 1995; New York, NY, USA), in view of Kinra et al. (Kinra hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,731,991, filed: May 3, 1996), and further in view of Rose et al. (Rose hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,724,567, filed: April 25, 1994).

Regarding Claim 12, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra discloses all the limitations as disclosed above. However, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra does not expressly disclose a password. On the other hand, Rose discloses: receiving a password from a user to determine an authority level of the user (Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the Rose's teachings to the system of Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra. Skilled artisan would have been motivated to do so, as suggested by Rose (Col. 3, lines 60 – 63, Rose), to identify the user as having authorized access to the system.

Regarding Claim 21, the combination of Wang in view of Aggarwal in view of Kinra and further in view of Rose (Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose hereinafter) discloses a data structure, further comprising an authority code (Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose).

Regarding Claim 22, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a data structure, wherein the reliability information is variable and includes a number of authority levels (Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra), a degree of variable information update for each authority level (Col. 2, lines 10 – 12, Kinra), and a number of variable information updates by a user of each authority level (Col. 6, lines 55 – 59, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 23, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a data structure, wherein the reliability information is fixed and includes a number of variable information updates by a user of fixed authority levels (Col. 6, lines 51 – 55, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 32, 40, and 51, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the update information includes:

a number of times the weight information has been updated by a user (Col. 6, lines 55 – 59, Kinra); and

authority information corresponding to the user (Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra; and Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose).

Regarding Claim 33, 41, and 52, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the authority information includes an authority level of the user (Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 34, 42, and 53, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the authority level is based on an amount of experience of the user (Col. 6, lines 53 – 55, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 35, 43, and 54, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the update information provides an indication of how frequently the weight information has been updated (Col. 10, lines 49 – 54, Kinra³).

³ Wherein the step of double clicking corresponds to the step of providing an indication as claimed.

Regarding Claim 36, 44, and 55, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the update information provides an indication of how frequently the weight information has been updated by one or more users having at least a minimum authority level (Col. 6 and 10, lines 59 – 63 and 49 – 54; respectively, Kinra⁴).

Regarding Claim 45, and 56, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, further comprising:

an input unit which receives authority information corresponding to a user (Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose); and

a comparator which compares the authority information to predetermined information (Col. 6, lines 53 – 55, Modifier, Kinra; and Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose⁵), wherein the processor updates the weight information using user feedback based on a result output from the comparator (Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra).

Regarding Claim 46, and 57, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the predetermined information includes a password (Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose).

Regarding Claim 47, and 58, Wang/Aggarwal/Kinra/Rose discloses a system, wherein the comparator compares an authority level of the user to a predetermined

⁴ Wherein the step of double clicking corresponds to the step of providing an indication as claimed.

⁵ Wherein the user's identity corresponds to the predetermined information claimed.

authority level (Col. 6, lines 53 – 55, Modifier, Kinra; and Col. 4, lines 30 – 34, Rose⁶), and wherein the processor updates the weight information only if the authority level of the user is determined to be equal to or higher than the predetermined authority level based on an output from the comparator (Col. 2, lines 24 – 27, Kinra).

⁶ Wherein the user's identity corresponds to the predetermined information claimed.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant argues that; "Throughout the prosecution and during the interview, the Examiner did not acknowledge in any substantive way the Rule 132 Declaration of Jin-Soo Lee...".

Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 filed 09/30/2003 and 01/11/2007 was evaluated and acknowledge by the examiner (See Final Office Action mailed 04/06/2007, starting page 17).

Prior Art Made Of Record

1. Wang et al. (US Patent No. 5,802,361, filed: September 30, 1994) discloses a method and system for searching graphic images and videos.
2. Kinra et al. (US Patent No. 5,731,991, filed: May 3, 1996) discloses a software product evaluation.
3. Rose et al. (US Patent No. 5,724,567, filed: April 25, 1994) discloses a system for directing relevance-ranked data objects to computer users.
4. Aggarwal et al. (K. K. Aggarwal and Yogesh Singh) (Non-Patent Literature: "Software Reliability Apportionment using the Analytic Hierarchy Process"; ACM SIGSOFT; Software Engineering Notes vol 20 no 5; December 1995; New York, NY, USA).
5. Barber et al. (US 5,751,286).

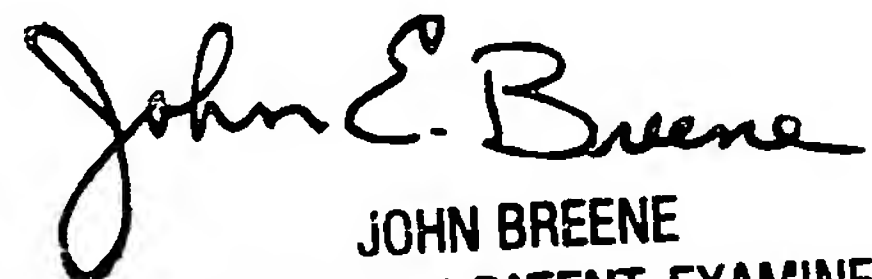
Points Of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Giovanna Colan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2752. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Giovanna Colan
Examiner
Art Unit 2162
January 05, 2008


JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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